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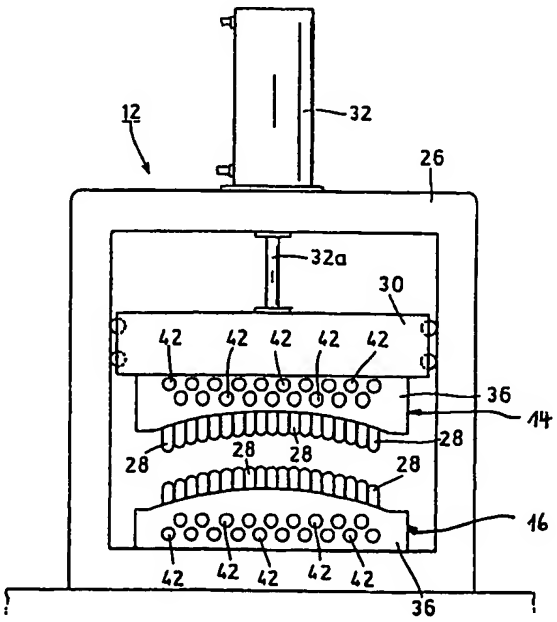
(54) Leaf spring cambering method and apparatus.

(57) Disclosed is a method and an apparatus for cambering a leaf spring by pressing a heated leaf spring material between a pair of molds (14,16), characterized in that said pair of molds each comprise a plurality of mold fingers (28) which can be advanced or retracted relative to the opposite mold by operating a plurality of drive means (42) connected to said plurality of mold fingers based on a predetermined command given from a control means to advance or retract said fingers to required heights, respectively, so that the free ends of the mold fingers as a whole may form a required mold surface; and each mold finger is locked with a releasable locking means (67-69). The cambering apparatus may further comprise a tempering section, in which said pair of molds, together with the cambered leaf spring, are designed to be immersed in the tempering liquid carried in a liquid tank (18) to effect tempering of the cambered leaf spring. Under the new command of cambering leaf springs of different camber specifications, each of the mold fingers of said two molds is connected again to the corresponding drive means (42) and said drive means is operated under the control command from said control means to form likewise a continuous mold surface in accordance with said different specifications.

FIG.1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 90 11 9182

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	FR-A-1 190 697 (MORANE) * Figures 1,6-8; page 2, right-hand column, line 30 - page 3, right-hand column, line 41; claims 1,2 *	1-5	B 21 D 53/88
X	DE-C-5 332 38 (HOBRACHT) * The whole document *	1-5	
X	US-A-1 776 082 (PETERSON) * Figures 1-4,6; page 1, lines 39-67 *	1-5	
X	US-A-4 212 188 (PINSON) * Figures 2,3,6; claims 1,4; column 4, lines 41-61 *	1,3-5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 21 D

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of search	Examiner
The Hague	02 August 91	GERARD O.J.

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X: particularly relevant if taken alone
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